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MANGA
THE Tunnel TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine
STORY: Mei Hachimoku
ART: Koudon
CHARACTER DESIGN: Kukka

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[Story] **Mei HACHIMOKU**

[Art] **KOUDON**


[Character Design] **KUKKA**

Contents



Chapter 5 The Law of the Tunnel

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The Law of the Tunnel




Rustle
TONO-KUN! HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING LONG?
UH, YEAH, LIKE A HALF AN HOUR.
THAT LONG, HUH?
Hop
ガサ
Rustle
I WENT TO PICK SOMETHING UP AND THE TIME GOT AWAY FROM ME.
THIS TOWN REALLY IS IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE. IT SUCKS.
ゴソ
Zip
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE THIRTY MINUTES AGO AND YET...
YOU COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT BEING LATE.
VOILÀ!
Ta-da!


PACKING STRING
200m
?
WHAT'S THIS FOR?
HEH HEH!
OUR EXPERIMENT!
SO, YOU'LL WAIT HERE?
YEP.


HANG ON... BEFORE WE START, CAN WE GO OVER THE PLAN ONE MORE TIME?
SURE.
SO FIRST, YOU'LL HOLD THE BALL OF STRING...
AND I'LL HOLD THE END.
I'LL ENTER THE TUNNEL, MOVING FOR-WARD AT A CONSISTENT PACE...
AND YOU'LL STAY OUTSIDE, HOLDING THE STRING...
WHILE GENTLY PULLING ON IT TO KEEP IT IN PLACE.
IF THE PASSAGE OF TIME IS THE SAME BOTH INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF THE TUNNEL, THE STRING WILL UNWIND AT A CONSTANT RATE.
HOW-EVER...


IF THE SPEED AT WHICH THE STRING UNWINDS CHANGES...
IT'LL MEAN I'VE CROSSED SOME KIND OF TIME-FLOW BOUNDARY.
IF THAT HAPPENS, YOU'LL LET ME KNOW BY PULLING HARD ON THE STRING...
AND I'LL TURN BACK.
AND THAT'S HOW WE'LL FIND OUT IF THERE'S A CLEAR BOUNDARY POINT...
RIGHT?
THAT'S RIGHT.


......
I HAVE NO IDEA HOW SHE EVEN CAME UP WITH THIS PLAN.
BUT...
HEY, HANASHIRO...
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY PLANNING TO GO INSIDE THE TUNNEL?
HUH? OF COURSE I AM.
WHEN YOU SPEND A FEW MINUTES IN THERE, A WEEK GOES BY. YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT?
I KNOW WE'VE GOT OUR EYES ON THE PRIZE AND ALL...
BUT WE HAVE NO IDEA HOW FAR THE TUNNEL GOES...
OR IF TIME PASSING MORE SLOWLY IS THE ONLY THING THAT'LL HAPPEN IN THERE.

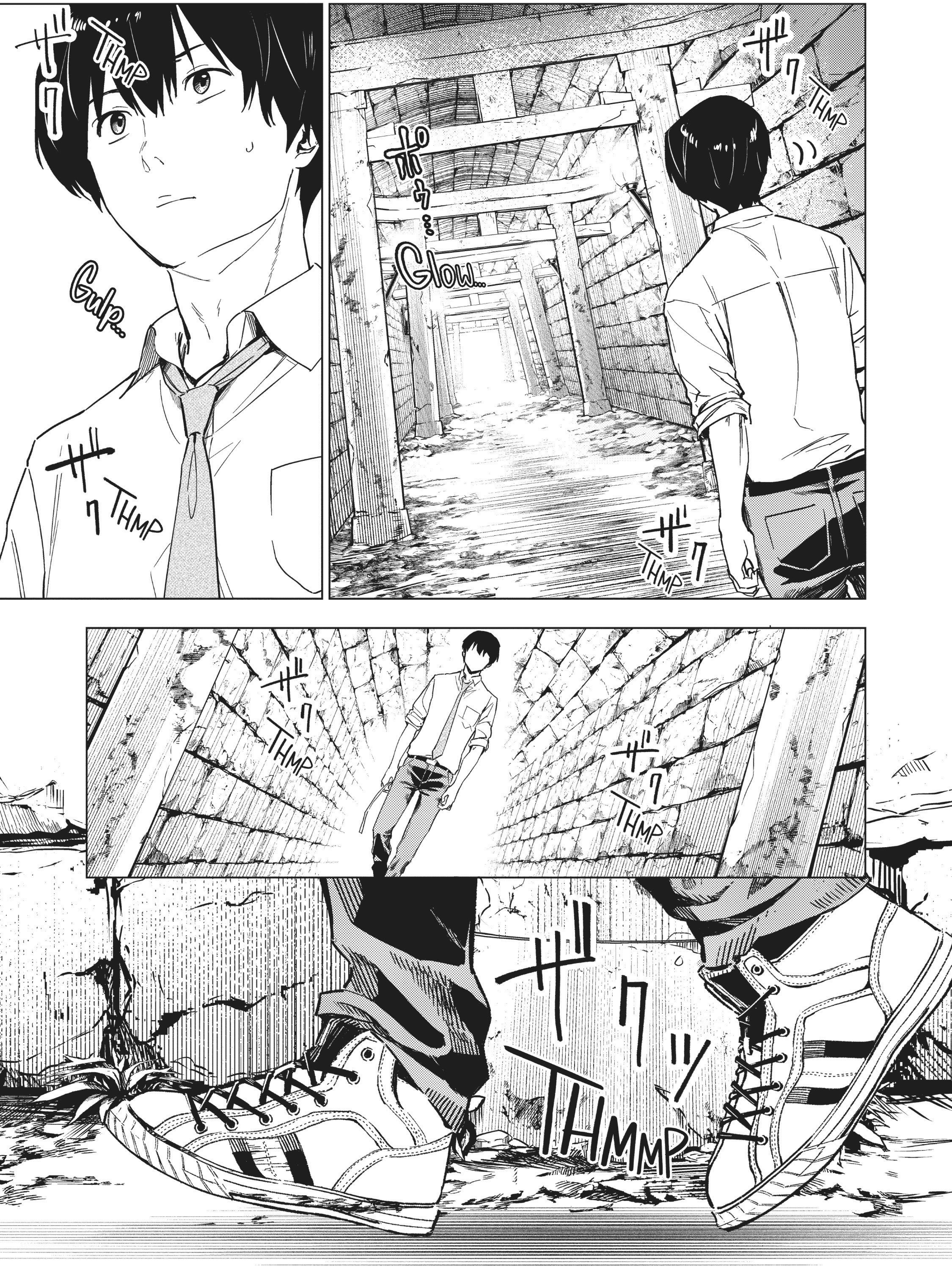

......
SO, YOU DON'T WANT TO INVESTIGATE THE URASHIMA TUNNEL TOGETHER, TONO-KUN?
N-NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M SAYING.
I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO.
BE-CAUSE...
NORMAL PEOPLE...
DON'T DO THIS KIND OF THING.


I HATE BEING NORMAL.
WHY IS THAT?
BECAUSE IT'S WORTH SO LITTLE.
OBJECTS, EXPERIENCES... DON'T HUMAN BEINGS TREASURE THE EXTRAORDINARY MORE THAN THE ORDINARY?
NORMAL IS BORING AS CRAP.
THAT'S HARSH, HANASHIRO.
I DON'T NECESSARILY DISAGREE...
BUT THE MUNDANE IS WORTH TREASURING, TOO. SOME THINGS ARE SPECIAL BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT SPECIAL.
SUCH AS...?
HUH? UMM, Y'KNOW, LIKE...
SALMON, AND... WHAT-NOT?


SALMON? IS THAT A JOKE?
I MEAN... SURE, SALMON'S NOTHING SPECIAL, BUT FANCIER FISH CAN'T COMPETE WITH ITS TASTE.
EVEN DURING THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER, I WOULD MUCH RATHER EAT SALMON THAN EEL.
BUT EEL IS THE BEST!
OH, UH...
WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT AGAIN?
Y'KNOW...
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU REALLY THINK, TONO-KUN...
IT'S FINE WITH ME.


......
Ba-dump
Ba-thump
Ba-dump
Blush
I STILL CAN'T FIGURE HANASHIRO OUT.
SHE'S SO ANTI-SOCIAL AT SCHOOL, AND YET...
WHICH IS THE REAL HER?
THAT SAID, IF WE ARE GOING TO INVESTIGATE, TONO-KUN, LET'S GET ON WITH IT.
CLOCK IS TICKING.
OH...
O-OKAY.
THMP
THMP
FOR SOME REA-SON...


THIS REMINDS ME...
OF A TIN-CAN TELE-PHONE.
ザク
THMP
ザク
THMP
KAREN AND I USED TO MAKE THEM.
WE'D USE THEM TO CHAT FROM THE SECOND FLOOR DOWN TO THE GARDEN.
KAREN...
MAYBE SHE'S...
JUST UP AHEAD.
Glow...



ザク
THMP
ポゥ…
Glow...
ザク
THMP
ザク
THMP
Gulp...
ザク
THMP
ザク
THMP
ザク
THMP
ザクッ
THMMP


!
Tug
くる
Turn
IF THAT'S THE SIGNAL, I'D BETTER HEAD BACK.
AH!
NICE WORK, TONO-KUN!


I MEANT TO COME BACK RIGHT WHEN I GOT THE SIGNAL.
YOU WERE IN THE TUNNEL FOR ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES.
WAIT, REALLY?
SO?
IF TWENTY MINUTES WENT BY OUT HERE, DOESN'T THAT MEAN YOU CROSSED THE TIME BOUNDARY?
WHERE WAS IT?
YEAH.
OVER THERE, RIGHT? JUST PAST THE TORII GATE?
?
Tremble
Tremble
OOOH!



Beaaam
WHAT THE HECK? I'VE NEVER SEEN HER ACT SO CUTE.
Boing!
ALL RIGHT!
OUR EXPERIMENT WAS A SUCCESS!
UHH, SO NOW WHAT? THE BOUNDARY CLEARLY EXISTS.
SHOULD I GO BACK IN THERE AND GET AN ACCURATE MEASUREMENT OF HOW MUCH TIME--
HAS IT ALREADY BEEN FIVE AND A HALF HOURS?
WHY DON'T WE PICK THIS BACK UP TOMORROW? IT'S GETTING KINDA LATE.
NO WAY!
!
OH... BUT...


I WANNA SEE THE RESULTS, SO LET'S KEEP GOING!
THE NEXT THING ON THE LIST IS...
THMP
AFTER PASSING THE TORII GATE AND WAITING THREE SECONDS...
I TURN BACK AND EXIT THE TUNNEL.
THMP
THMP
THMP
ONE...
TWO...
THREE.
WHOA.
THMP...


WASN'T I ONLY IN THERE FOR, LIKE, A SECOND?
AND NOW IT'S DARK OUT.
I'VE GONE INSIDE THE TUNNEL THREE TIMES ALREADY...
BUT I STILL CAN'T GET USED TO THIS.
Shudder...
I DID TELL HANASHIRO TO HEAD ON HOME IF IT GETS TOO LATE...
I'M SURE SHE'S ALREADY GONE.
I'LL JUST CHECK THE TIME TO SEE HOW LONG I WAS IN THERE.
THEN I'LL HEAD...


What the--?!
Jolt
WELCOME BACK.
Glare...
I SAID I'D WAIT FOR YOU, DIDN'T I?
H-HANASHIRO... YOU'RE STILL HERE?!
Drip
Drip
ACK.
S-SORRY.
NEVER MIND.
THE TIME!



......
......
July 9
19:30
1 2 3
TWO HOURS ON THE DOT.
BAM
Rustle
Rustle
?
Scribble
Scribble
Scribble
SINCE ONE SECOND INSIDE THE TUNNEL EQUALS FORTY MINUTES OUTSIDE...
INCREDIBLE! THIS IS INCREDIBLE, TONO-KUN!


BAM
IF WE LIVED INSIDE THE TUNNEL, WE COULD TRAVEL TO THE FUTURE!!
1 second=40 minutes
1 minute=40 hours
1 hour=100days
1 day=6.5 years
ONE DAY IS EQUAL TO SIX AND A HALF YEARS!
INCREDIBLE!
AMAZING! THIS IS A SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH! IT'S LIKE A TIME MACHINE!!
......
ONE DAY EQUALS SIX AND A HALF YEARS.
SO, THREE DAYS WOULD MEAN AROUND TWENTY YEARS WOULD PASS OUTSIDE.
WE COULD DEFINITELY SEE THE FUTURE...
BUT WE'D HAVE TO LEAVE EVERYTHING FROM OUR PAST BEHIND.
WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WE STAYED INSIDE THE TUNNEL AND LET TIME PASS.
STILL, I'D DO ANYTHING TO SEE KAREN AGAIN...
EVEN IF IT MEANT RISKING MY LIFE.
BUT...


"Hey, Hanashiro...
"are you seriously planning to go inside the tunnel?"
MAYBE I SHOULD JUST...
LET HER BE FOR NOW.
TWO DAYS LATER.
LATER~!
CLUB?


Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
Smack
OW.
STARING AT HANASHIRO AGAIN, ARE YA?
JEALOUS?
I'LL KILL YOU.
THUMP
KAGA.
IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HANASHIRO, GO TALK TO HER. YOU'RE NOT GONNA BECOME FRIENDS BY WATCHING HER FROM A DISTANCE.
"FRIENDS"... HUNH.


OH.
BY THE WAY, DID YOU HEAR? APPARENTLY, KAWASAKI'S BOYFRIEND HAS DROPPED OUT.
WAIT, ARE YOU SERIOUS?
YEAH.
HE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT TAKING OVER HIS FAMILY'S FISHING BUSINESS.
MAYBE GETTING HIT BY A GIRL TURNED HIM OFF FROM FINISHING HIGH SCHOOL.
Clatter
I GUESS HE WANTS A FRESH START.
......
KAWASAKI-SAN HASN'T COME TO SCHOOL SINCE THEN, EITHER.
HMM.
WELL... WANNA HEAD OUT?
Bong
Bong
YEAH.
CRACKLE


TONO KAORU-KUN FROM CLASS 2A...
PLEASE REPORT TO THE FACULTY OFFICE.
?!
HUH? ME?
I REPEAT, TONO KAORU...
WHAT THE HECK DID YOU DO?
BEATS ME.
WEIRD.
MIND IF I DON'T WAIT UP FOR YOU?
NO.
Glance
Nod



WHAT WAS THAT NOD FOR?
IS TODAY'S INVESTIGATION STILL ON? OR IS IT CANCELED?
I DUNNO...
Scratch
OH, TONO-KUN!
SORRY FOR HAVING TO CALL YOU HERE.
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT KAWASAKI-SAN.
HAMA-MOTO-SENSEI...
MAY I ASK WHAT THIS IS ABOUT? HAS SOMETHING HAPPENED?
I'M SURE YOU'VE NOTICED SHE HASN'T COME TO SCHOOL LATELY, YES?
UH-HUH.
KAWASAKI-SAN?
THAT'S RIGHT.


I'VE BEEN TOLD SHE HASN'T BEEN FEELING WELL, BUT AS HER HOMEROOM TEACHER, I'M STILL A BIT CONCERNED...
SO, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK YOU, TONO-KUN.
Tug
?
COULD YOU DELIVER THE ENGLISH HOMEWORK SHE'S MISSED...
English Homework Packet
Year Class Number
First and Last Name
TO KAWASAKI-SAN?
HUH?
WHAT ABOUT HANEDA-SAN OR SATO-SAN?
KAWASAKI-SAN'S "PARTNERS IN CRIME"...
I REALIZE THIS IS A LOT TO ASK, BUT EVERYONE SEEMS TO BE BUSY.
SO BASICALLY, THEY DON'T WANT TO DO IT.
UUUH...


ERRRR... AAAH...
SINCE YOU WENT TO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL WITH KAWASAKI-SAN, YOU KNOW WHERE SHE LIVES, RIGHT?
DO I HAVE TO?
SORRY, I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET UP WITH A FRIEND AFTER SCHOOL TODAY...
IS THAT SOOO?
WHAT KIND OF THINGS DO YOU DO FOR FUN?
ACT OUT SCENES FROM STAND BY ME?
EXCUSE ME?



WELL, TO TELL YOU THE TRUUUTH...
THE SCHOOL GOT A CALL ABOUT "TONO-SAN'S SON WALKING ALONG THE TRAIN TRACKS."
!!!
TH-THAT WASN'T...
WELL! LOOKS LIKE IT'S TRUE.
YOU'VE BEEN ABSENT OR TARDY QUITE A BIT LATELY. WOULDN'T YOU AGREE, TONO-KUN?
I'M WONDERING IF I SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FATHER.
......
UH...I...I'M SORRY. I SINCERELY APOLOGIZE FOR MY ACTIONS.
BUT I'D REALLY RATHER YOU NOT CALL...
Wilt...
......


WELL...
I KNOW YOUR HOME LIFE IS COMPLICATED.
WITH THAT IN MIND, WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN EARNING A BIT OF MONEY...
IN RETURN FOR YOUR CONTRIBU-TIONS?
FOR MY...
CON-TRIBU-TIONS?
THAT'S RIGHT!
FOR EXAMPLE...
DELIVERING HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS TO AN ABSENT CLASSMATE...
AND THINGS LIKE THAT.
Plod
Plod



Siiigh...
TONO-KUN!
Jolt
WHOOOA!
YOU'RE LATE!
TIME TO GET MOVING. THE TUNNEL AWAITS!
Sulk
I-I CAN'T.
SORRY, SORRY! I WAS JUST LOOKING FOR YOU.
THE TEACHER ASKED ME TO RUN AN ERRAND, SO I HAVE TO SKIP OUR INVESTIGATION TODAY.
I MEANT TO LET YOU KNOW EARLIER.
IS THAT SO?
OKAY.
HAVE WE EVEN SWAPPED CONTACT INFO?


THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER EXCHANGED CONTACT INFO.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, TONO-KUN?
I DID IT WITH KAGA...
AND NOW YOU'RE THE SECOND.
Frown...
......
OH, REALLY?
SO, WHY'D YOU GET CALLED TO THE OFFICE?
WHAT'S WITH THAT LOOK?
OH YEAH, THAT.
SOMEONE SAID THEY SAW ME WALKING ON THE TRAIN TRACKS.
YOU SHOULD BE CAREFUL TOO, HANASHIRO. LET'S STOP GOING THAT WAY. SOME-ONE MIGHT BE WATCHING US.
FINE.


ブーン VRRRM
WHAT? WHY?
ODD-JOB REQUEST. I'M GOING TO DROP OFF HER HOME-WORK.
WELL, I'VE GOTTA GO TO KAWASAKI-SAN'S HOUSE NOW.
Bus
I'M COMING TOO.
HUH?!
Passenger
ブーン VRRRM
HEY, HANA-SHIRO... DON'T YOU DISLIKE KAWASAKI-SAN?
ガタ Rattle
......
ガタ Rattle


I HATE HER!
KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF, OKAY?
AND FEET!
YOU HATE HER, AND YET YOU'RE GOING TO HER HOUSE.
I'M GOING BECAUSE...
YOU'RE GOING, TONO-KUN.
......
THAT'S...
Rattle
Rattle


I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BE SO QUICK TO SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.
OH YEAH?
WELL, YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON I TALK TO, TONO-KUN.
AREN'T YOU OVER-VALUING ME, HANASHIRO?
I'M JUST SOME ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT. I'M BORING.
YOU'RE WRONG.
YOU'RE NOT ORDINARY, TONO-KUN.
YOU'RE PRETTY WEIRD!
IS THAT...A COMPLIMENT?
KAWASAKI



ビコ
Beeep
THUD ドタ
THUD ドタ
THUD ドタ
WHAT'S WITH THE DOOR-BELL?
ガチャ
Ka-Chak
YEEE...
AAAHH?

THE Tunnel TO Summer

The Exit of Goodbyes: Ultramarine

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Chapter 6
Longing, after the Rain
WHAT?
WE CAME TO GIVE YOU THE HOMEWORK YOU'VE MISSED.
......
ゴロ Rumble
ゴロ Rumble
ゴロ... Rumble...


Chapter 6
Longing, after the Rain


YOU TWO CAME TO BRING ME THIS?
UH-HUH.
OH.
Droop
Plap
Plap
FFSH
WHAT THE...? RAIN?
JEEZ.
FF-
SS-
SS-
SS-SH
REALLY? NOW WHAT?

KOHARU! CAN'T YOU SEE IT'S POURING OUTSIDE?!
HOW ABOUT INVITING THEM IN?
HUH?! LIKE HELL I WILL!!
THEY'RE JUST HERE TO DROP SOMETHING OFF!!
SIGH...
Stomp
ドスドス
Stomp
LOSE THE ATTITUDE!
THEY CAME ALL THE WAY HERE AND NOW YOU'RE MOUTHING OFF?!
GRAB
YEAH, BUT--!
MY APOLOGIES TO YOU BOTH~!
SHE HAS A HARD TIME BEING GRACIOUS WITH PEOPLE.
Ruffle
Ruffle


NO NEED TO BE SO POLITE!
COME ON IN!
AH, UM...
O-OKAY...
FFSSSH
アアア
Creak
WOW.
SO THIS IS A GIRL'S BED-ROOM.
EXCEPT FOR KAREN'S, I'VE NEVER BEEN IN A GIRL'S BED-ROOM BEFORE.
I'VE GOTTA SAY, IT SMELLS NICE IN HERE.
I'M ANTSY...
Scan Scan


HEY!
STOP STARING AND SIT DOWN ALREADY!
AH...
S-SORRY...
AND THE SECOND THIS RAIN STOPS, I WANT YOU BOTH GONE!
Silence...
FF-SS-SS-SH...
......


SO, UMM... YOU WEAR CONTACTS AT SCHOOL, KAWASAKI-SAN?
WHAT DO YOU CARE? YOU CALLING ME A LOSER?
NO, THAT'S NOT WHAT I--
FFSSSSH...
ザアアァ...
THEN QUIT TALKING.
OKAY.
......
I MEAN, I GUESS I GET WHY TONO'S HERE...
BUT WHY THE HELL ARE *YOU* HERE?


I ONLY CAME TO ACCOMPANY TONO-KUN.
WHAT? ARE YOU GUYS GOING OUT?
TONO-KUN AND I ARE COMRADES.
OUR RELATIONSHIP IS PRINCIPLED, SO DON'T LUMP US TOGETHER WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
THE HECK? I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YOU'RE SO CREEPY.
LIKE, WHO DO YOU PEOPLE THINK YOU ARE?
WEREN'T YOU DATING THAT THUG?
!
...... NO.
HUH?


WE WEREN'T...
DATING.
?!
REALLY?!
HE WAS JUST PRETENDING TO BE MY BOYFRIEND.
SOMEONE MUST'VE THOUGHT WE WERE A REAL COUPLE.
WOW.
HMM? SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT ASSUMPTION UNTIL NOW.
Twitch
TH...
THAT'S...
BE-CAUSE...
I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE...
ANYTHING TO SAY...
ABOUT IT.
I SEE.


SO, YOU DIDN'T REALLY LIKE THAT GUY.
BUT IF YOU DENY YOUR RELATIONSHIP...
DOESN'T THAT MEAN YOU WERE JUST USING HIM TO SCARE PEOPLE?
WAIT!
WAIT A MINUTE!
LIKE WHEN A SMALL-TIME THUG NAME-DROPS A BIG DOG TO INTIMIDATE HIS OPPONENT?
VOLT
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!
BUT IT IS LIKE THAT.


IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO BE A PART OF IT, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BOTHERED TO HAVE HIM "TALK" TO ME THE OTHER DAY, WOULD YOU?
THE FACT THAT YOU HAD SOME-ONE DO ALL YOUR DIRTY WORK FOR YOU...
REALLY SHOWS HOW MUCH CHARACTER YOU LACK.
STAB
STAB
Tremble
Tremble
YIKES... IS SHE GONNA SNAP?
HONESTLY.
I WONDER HOW DESPERATE YOU ARE TO PROTECT YOUR PRIDE.
......
C-CAN...


Sob!
CAN...
YOU...
STOP...
Sob!
Drip
Drip
TALKING ...
ALREADY ?!
Waah!
SHOCK
SHE'S CRYING!
HEY... YOU WENT TOO FAR, HANASHIRO. YOU OWE HER AN APOLOGY.
SERI-OUSLY?
Sob!
Waah!
Sob!
SORRY, I DIDN'T MEAN TO MAKE YOU CRY.
THOUGH I HAD A FEELING YOU WOULD.
COULD YOU *TRY* TO BE A BIT MORE SORRY?
SHOOP


STOP BULLYING OUR BIG SISTER!
?!
ばーん BAM
?!
? ?
WAAAH!
POW
POW
STOP!
WAIT!
KIDS!


Clang
BAWWWL
PHEEEEWW!
I'M SORRY FOR ALL THE FUSS.
SHE WAS PROBABLY JUST TEASING YOU.
WHAT CAN I SAY?
WOULD YOU MIND CUTTING HER SOME SLACK?
SHE'S A GOOD KID AT HEART.
SURE.
......


YOU KNOW, WHEN SHE HEARD THE DOORBELL RING, SHE THOUGHT HER FRIENDS HAD COME BY, AND SHE RAN TO GET THE DOOR.
I THINK SHE'S BEEN FEELING LONELY.
SO... WELL, I GUESS I CAN'T FORCE YOU...
BUT BE NICE TO HER.
OKAY.
Nod
HEH HEH!
THANK YOU.
WELL, IT'S STILL COMING DOWN, SO JUST KICK BACK AND RELAX!
KA-CLUNK


THUMPA
THUMPA
GO...
TO YOUR ROOM.
HEY! GIVE US A YELL IF THEY START ACTING UP AGAIN, SIS!
'CAUSE NEXT TIME, ONE PUNCH AND YOU GUYS ARE FINISHED!
THUMPA
THUMPA
THUMPA
......
ARE YOU JUST GONNA STAND THERE?
OH...
SORRY.


FSSSH!!!
SO...
WHAT DID MA--MY MOTHER SAY TO YOU?
SHE CALLS HER MOM "MAMA"?
NOTHING MUCH, REALLY.
SHE JUST TOLD US TO STICK AROUND AND STUFF.
SHE TOLD US TO BE NICE TO YOU.
ARRGH... CAN SHE JUST BUTT OUT?
JUST KILL ME ALREADY!
YOU ARE WAY TOO SENSITIVE.
WELL, SINCE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STARTED ALL THIS...
LET'S AT LEAST TRY TO CHEER HER UP A BIT.
I SEE NO POINT IN A SHOW OF CONSOLATION.
BESIDES, I REGRET NOTHING.
BUT--
YOU'RE **SOFT**, TONO-KUN.
WELL, YOU'RE TOO HARSH, HANA-SHIRO.
HEY...


HOW CAN I BE MORE LIKE YOU GUYS?
......
WELL...
FSSSH...
サァ・・・


YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANY-THING SPECIAL.
BUT...
I SUPPOSE I'D SAY YOU SHOULD BE WILLING TO HIT SOMEONE.
ESTABLISH A CLEAR SET OF BOUNDARIES IN YOUR MIND THAT SAYS, "IF SOMEONE DOES THIS TO ME, I'LL HIT THEM."
YOU KNOW HOW VIDEO GAME CHARACTERS HAVE HIT POINTS? IT'S THE SAME THING.
THEN YOU CAN QUANTIFY YOUR EMOTIONS.
LIKE, "OH, SO THIS IS HOW ANGRY I AM RIGHT NOW."
AND IF YOU'RE PUSHED OVER THE EDGE, DON'T HESITATE TO USE YOUR FISTS.
THE BASIC IDEA IS TO STRIKE FIRST.
IF YOU PUNCH THEM IN THE NOSE, MOST OF THEM WILL GO BLANK AND SHUT UP.
OKAY, SHE'S SCARING ME...
Shudder..
UUUGH!

I CAN'T...
DO ALL THAT.
THERE'S JUST NO WAY.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO DO ANYTHING ELSE...
BUT WHATEVER YOU DO, HIT THEM.
IF YOU DON'T WORK UP THE COURAGE AT LEAST ONCE...
YOU NEVER WILL.
HMM...
SO, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?
WHO KNOWS?
THAT'S OUT OF MY HANDS.
Poke


HEY, KAWA-SAKI.
WHY DON'T YOU MAKE YOUR OWN RULES?
Scritch...
IF YOU DO THAT AND STICK TO THEM...
I THINK YOU CAN GET CLOSER TO BECOMING YOUR IDEAL SELF.
MY IDEAL...
SELF?


Plap
AFTER ALL, NO ONE KNOWS HOW TO DO EVERYTHING RIGHT.
ALL YOU CAN DO IS RUN AS FAST AS YOU CAN ON THE PATH YOU'VE CHOSEN.
Plap
......
THE RAIN...
STOPPED.
Bow


HEY!
WAIT A SEC!
WHAT IS IT?
OH, UMM...
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO PUT THIS, BUT WHAT YOU SAID...
TO BE HONEST, IT REALLY STUNG.
IT WAS AS IF... YOU WERE READING MY MIND, YOU WERE SO SPOT-ON.
LIKE, I WAS EMBARRASSED BY IT.
SO, I JUST WANTED...
TO SAY...
UM...


I'M SORRY...
FOR BEING SUCH A JERK!
DID KAWA-SAKI-SAN JUST...?
I...
DON'T CARE.


IF YOU SAY SO.
OH...
AND, TONO-KUN?
YEAH?
YOU CAN HAVE THIS BACK.
Thrust
HUH? WHAT'S THIS FOR?
I DON'T REMEMBER LENDING YOU MONEY.
THIS IS FOR ALL THE CRAP I'VE MADE YOU BUY ME.
I CAN'T REMEMBER THE EXACT AMOUNT I OWE YOU...


SO, SORRY IF IT'S NOT ENOUGH.
Fwwssssh...
ザァァァン...
Number 5
BUS
......
I'M GLAD KAWASAKI-SAN'S FEELING BETTER.
Number 5
......
...?
TONO-KUN...


Number 5
DO YOU LIKE KAWASAKI?
Freeze
WHO, ME?
NOPE, CAN'T SAY I DO.
I'M JUST IN AWE OF HER.
WHY DO YOU ASK?
BECAUSE YOU WERE REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT HER.
Number 5
HUH? I WASN'T TRYING TO BE.
DID IT SEEM LIKE I WAS?
......
KAWASAKI-SAN IS CUTE, SURE, BUT SHE'S SO INTENSE...
AND SCARY...
AND SELFISH.
SELFISH?


HUNH.
MAYBE *THAT'S* WHY.
WHAT?
KAWASAKI-SAN...
REMINDS ME A LITTLE BIT OF MY SISTER.
LIKE, HER FACE?
NO, HER **PERSONALITY.**
KAREN COULD BE PRETTY SELFISH...
BUT SHE WASN'T JUST DOING IT FOR ITS OWN SAKE.
SHE'D TRY TO ACT LIKE SHE DIDN'T CARE ABOUT PEOPLE, SO PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE TO CARE ABOUT HER.
SHE WAS SELFISH IN A CALCULATING WAY.
I DON'T GET IT.
EHN, I DIDN'T EXPLAIN IT VERY WELL.
ANYWAY, I DON'T HAVE A THING FOR KAWASAKI-SAN.


I MEAN, WEREN'T YOU CONCERNED TOO, HANASHIRO?
THAT'S...
THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE KAWASAKI-SAN'S MOTHER TOLD US TO BE NICE TO HER.
I'M NOT SURE THAT I'D CALL WHAT YOU DID BEING *NICE* TO HER.
BEING NICE ISN'T THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE FRIENDS, TONO-KUN.
SHE'S GOT A POINT.
ゴポッ
Cough
Twitch




Pretty.
KAREN?
OH, I SEE...
THIS IS A DREAM.
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE HAD THIS DREAM.
You tired? Do you want to go home?
I REMEMBER THIS PLACE.
I'LL NEVER FORGET THE TIME WE CAME HERE AS A FAMILY. IT WAS SHORTLY BEFORE KAREN DIED.
Mmm...
I can't.
Mom and Dad...


are getting along right now, so I wanna stay...
a little bit longer.
Well, can I give you a piggy-back ride at least?
Piggyback!
Wait, here?!
Hur-ry uuup!
Get going, Oniichan!
Whooosh!
Vroom vroom!
Squeeee! Ha ha ha ha!
Are you having fun, Oniichan?
Yeah, I am!
I always have fun when you're around.


Really?
Ruffle
I'm glad you came.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
Chip
Chip
Chip
IT'S ONLY 6:30 A.M., BUT THE TEMPERATURE IS ALREADY...
......
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP



Ka-chak
Glance
Glance
Rattle
Rattle
Clunk...
Karen made every day brighter.
Our lives would be much happier if she were still alive.



WHEN MOM DISAPPEARED, DAD LOST IT AND THREW AWAY ALL OF KAREN'S THINGS.
Shove
SORRY I HAVE TO LEAVE YOUR THINGS OUT HERE, KAREN...
BUT IF I KEPT THEM IN MY ROOM, DAD WOULD JUST THROW THEM OUT AGAIN.
I'M TRYING TO REACH YOU.
JUST WAIT FOR ME A LITTLE BIT LONGER, KAREN.
'MORNING!
Murmur ざわ
Murmur ざわ
KAORU!
YOU'VE GOTTA SEE THIS!
HEY, KAGA... 'MORNING.
?

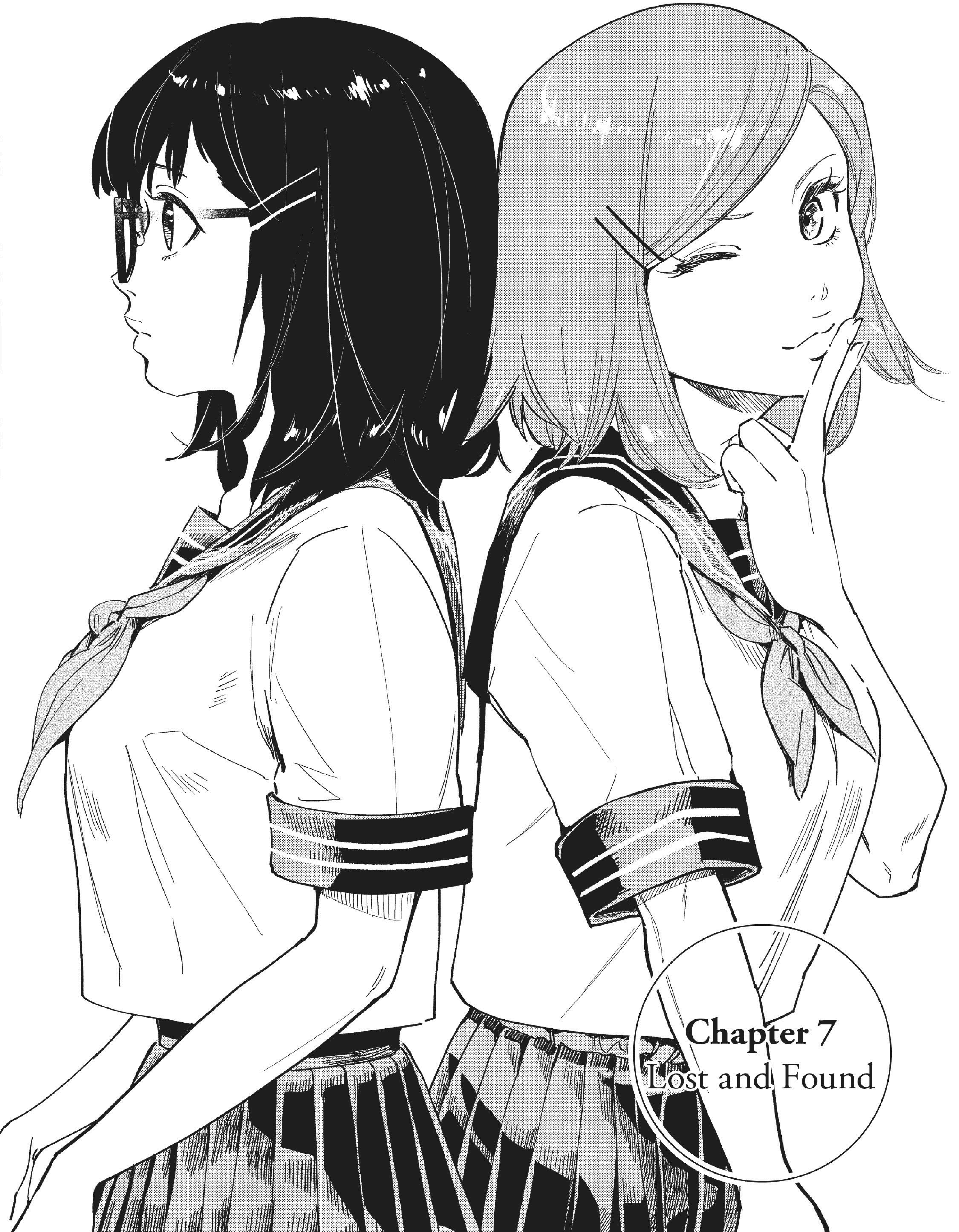

Murmur
Murmur
Murmur
ANOTHER TRANSFER STUDENT?
NO--IT'S KAWASAKI!
THE QUEEN BEE, KAWASAKI KOHARU!
HUH?!

THE Tunnel TO Summer

The Exit of Goodbyes: Ultramarine

THE
Tunnel
TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine


IT'S THE QUEEN BEE, KAWASAKI KOHARU!
WHAT THE...?!
NO WONDER OUR CLASS HAS BEEN BUZZING ALL MORNING.
KOHARU, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAIR?
!
DID SHE LOSE A BET?
I DUNNO.
MAYBE SHE'S CLEANED UP HER ACT.
Chapter 7
Lost and Found


Chapter 7
Lost and Found


UH-OH...
IT'S HER NUMBER TWO, HENCHMAN HANEDA.
THAT CHICK? GUESS SHE'S THE QUEEN-BEE-IN-WAITING.
WHAT HAPPENED? YOU GET A MAKEOVER?
Chuckle
HEH HEH.
SO, KAWASAKI'S CHANGED, HUH? PEOPLE ARE FULL OF SURPRISES, AREN'T THEY?
OH, THAT REMINDS ME. YO, KAORU...
WHAT?



WHERE DID YOU AND HANASHIRO GO YESTERDAY?
!!
H-HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT?
WAIT, SERIOUSLY?
LIKE, A SENPAI IN THE CALLIGRAPHY CLUB SAW HANASHIRO SITTING WITH SOME GUY ON THE BUS.
YOU MIGHT BE A NOBODY, BUT HANASHIRO'S DEFINITELY NOT, Y'KNOW?
WHEN I ASKED HIM TO DESCRIBE THE GUY, IT SOUNDED A LOT LIKE YOU, SO I KEPT ASKING QUESTIONS TILL THE TRUTH CAME OUT.
SON OF A GUN.


SO, WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH YOU GUYS?
Quiver
......
AHEM...
Fidget
WHATEVER YOU'RE THINKING, IT'S NOT *THAT.*
SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND, AND I'M NOT EVEN SURE SHE'S A FRIEND.
THEN WHERE DID YOU GUYS RUN OFF TO?
TO KAWASAKI-SAN'S HOUSE TO DROP OFF THE HOME-WORK SHE'D MISSED.
WITH HANASHIRO? HOW DID *THAT* HAPPEN?
IT'S A LONG STORY, AND LIFE'S TOO SHORT.
I WOULDN'T EVEN KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.
......
YOU'RE FULL OF CRAP.
WELL, I GUESS MY GUT WAS RIGHT.
HUUUH?


DON'T YOU THINK YOU AND HANASHIRO ARE CLOSED OFF FROM THE WORLD?
IT MAKES SENSE THAT PEOPLE WHO AREN'T INTERESTED IN OTHER PEOPLE WOULD VIBE WITH EACH OTHER.
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
キーンコーンカーンコーン
BING BONG BING BONG
OKAY, TIME FOR FIRST PERIOD.
WELL, THEN...
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
THAT'S ALL YOU'RE HAVING FOR LUNCH TODAY?
I WOKE UP A BIT LATE AND DIDN'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME.
HEY, LOOK.
HM?


IS IT OKAY...
IF I JOIN YOU FOR LUNCH?
HANA-SHIRO?
Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
Murmur
Murmur
Murmur


Click
Clack
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M SEEING.
THOSE TWO WANTED TO WRING EACH OTHER'S NECKS THE OTHER DAY.
I KNOW.
KOHA-RUUU...
HEY, HOW COME YOU'RE EATING LUNCH WITH HANASHIRO?
Yank
Yank
HEY...!


AH HA HA!
UH-OH...
YEAH, WHAT'S THE DEAL?
WHAT WAS THAT?
COULD YOU SAY IT AGAIN IN YOUR BIG-GIRL VOICE?
BE-CAUSE...
BECAUSE I'VE DECIDED...
TO BE LIKE HANASHIRO!


Snicker
AND YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE SO COOL!
WHERE'S YOUR FREAKING SELF-RESPECT?
Tremble
Tremble
Snicker
Aaah ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!
Snicker
DID YOU FALL AND HIT YOUR HEAD OR SOMETHING?
Snicker
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
WHAAAT?! YOU CAN TELL US! WE'RE FRIENDS, AREN'T WEEE?
HEEEY! C'MOOON ALREADY!
WH-WHO CARES WHAT YOU THINK?!
Bobble
Bobble
SO, WHAT'S THE DEAL? WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE TO DO TO BE LIKE HANASHIRO?
OOF...
BAM


Clatter
AH!
Splat...
......
JUST SO YOU KNOW, THAT WASN'T ON PURPOSE.
IT'S KOHARU'S FAULT FOR NOT ANSWERING FAST ENOUGH.
Scrape...
......
IN A MINUTE, I'M GOING TO GO HELP KAWASAKI-SAN.
MORE LIKE A SEC-OND.
Shake
Shake
KAWASAKI...


Scrape
DIDN'T YOU JUST SAY YOU WANTED TO BE LIKE ME?
Nod Nod
Uh-huh.
Clench...
THEN WATCH WHAT HAPPENS...
WHEN I'M PUSHED OVER THE EDGE.
LET ME TEACH YOU.


W-WAIT A MINUTE!
I'M NOT TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT WITH *YOU*, HANASHIRO!
Skitter
DON'T GET ALL WORKED UP!
ZOOM
HMPH.
CHICKEN.
TH...
THANK YOU, HANASHIRO.
......


I GUESS KAWASAKI-SAN REALLY DOES WANT TO BE LIKE HER.
MAYBE THAT'S WHY SHE DIDN'T SAY MUCH WHEN HANASHIRO WAS LECTURING HER.
KAWA-SAKI EVEN THANKED HER PROPERLY THIS TIME.
I HAVE TO GIVE CREDIT TO PEOPLE WHO TRY TO CHANGE THEMSELVES.
IT'S IMPRESSIVE.
SHOULD I CHANGE MYSELF...
TOO?


THAT NIGHT.
YOU'RE LATE!
YOU'RE ALREADY HERE?
I'M RIGHT ON TIME, THOUGH.
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO BE FIVE MINUTES **AHEAD** OF TIME!
SAYS THE PERSON WHO WAS THIRTY MINUTES LATE LAST TIME?
THAT WAS DIFFERENT! WE MET DURING THE DAY!
LEAVE A GIRL ALONE HERE AT NIGHT, AND ANIMALS COULD HAVE HER FOR DINNER! COME MORNING, I'D BE NOTHING BUT BONES!
I DOUBT THAT.
I MEAN, IF NOW'S NOT A GOOD TIME, WE CAN JUST MEET IN THE MORNING.


Fwip
HAH! TODAY'S FRIDAY, JULY 12TH!
MONDAY'S A HOLIDAY, SO WE HAVE A THREE-DAY WEEKEND!
IF WE WANT TO INVESTIGATE THE TUNNEL WITHOUT TIME CONSTRAINTS, TONIGHT'S THE NIGHT!
WE'VE GONE OVER THIS ALREADY!
OH, RIGHT.
SO, DID YOU GET YOUR DAD'S PERMISSION TO "SLEEP OVER AT A FRIEND'S"?
YEAH, I EVEN BROUGHT MY BACKPACK AS CAMOU-FLAGE.
THEN LET'S GET GOING! I DON'T WANT TO WASTE TIME TALKING!
A THREE-DAY WEEKEND MEANS WE CAN ONLY STAY IN THE TUNNEL FOR **TWO MINUTES** AT MOST!
ヒュオ…
HYUU...


ザク THMP
ザク THMP
ザク THMP
DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT WE WENT OVER LAST TIME, TONO-KUN?
UH-HUH. TODAY IS "OPERATION: FIND THE LENGTH OF THE TUNNEL."
ONCE WE'VE PASSED THE FIRST GATE AND CROSSED THE TIME BOUNDARY, WE'LL RUN AS FAST AS WE CAN TO THE POINT WHERE I STOPPED LAST TIME.
THEN WE'LL GO BACK.
1 minute = 40 hours
= 1 day + 16 hours
2 minutes = 3 days + 8 hours
RIGHT.
ASSUMING WE CAN STAY BEYOND THE BOUNDARY FOR TWO MINUTES, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MOVE THREE HUNDRED METERS FORWARD BEFORE TURNING BACK.
AND IF WE CONSIDER THE ELEVATION OF THE MOUNTAIN TO WHICH THE TUNNEL CONNECTS...


I DON'T THINK IT'S POSSIBLE FOR THE TUNNEL TO GO ON FOR THREE HUNDRED METERS PAST THE FIRST GATE.
HOPEFULLY, WE CAN REACH THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TUNNEL.
WOW...
TO COME UP WITH AN ANALYSIS LIKE THAT?
YOU'RE, LIKE, A SAGE.
A SAGE?
I WENT TO THE LIBRARY THE OTHER DAY TO DO SOME RESEARCH, BUT I COULDN'T FIND ANY HELPFUL BOOKS OR WEBSITES.
SO, I FIGURED WE'D HAVE TO MAKE OUR OWN PREDICTIONS AND GO FROM THERE.
NO ONE DOES IT LIKE YOU, HANASHIRO.


MY HAND KIND OF HURTS.
Stare
!
BY THE WAY...
WELL, I DON'T REALLY MIND, BUT--
Yank
Y-YEAH, SAME HERE! HOLDING HANDS FOR THE WHOLE TIME WOULD BE WEIRD!
ぐいぐい
Shove
Shove
IT'S FINE! NOW LET'S GO!
UH, HEY...
HANASHIRO, ARE YOU...


GULP
AFRAID OF THE DARK, BY ANY CHANCE?
YEAH, BUT...
IS THAT A BAD THING?
NO, THAT'S OKAY, I WAS JUST CURIOUS.
YOU SEEMED FINE THE LAST TIME YOU FOLLOWED ME.
Shf...
BUT WE WENT DURING THE DAY LAST TIME, SO THE TUNNEL WASN'T THAT DARK.
AT NIGHT IT'S MUCH WORSE!
IF THE FLASHLIGHT GOES OUT, I'LL HAVE A PANIC ATTACK!
JEEZ...
YOU'RE THAT SCARED, HUH?


YES, BECAUSE IT IS SCARY.
WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, I GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH A CLASSMATE AND THEY LOCKED ME IN THE BROOM CLOSET.
EVER SINCE THEN, DARK, NARROW SPACES GIVE ME THE CREEPS.
BUT IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE TRYING TO PICK ON ME. YOU JUST DIDN'T KNOW...SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!
WHEN I GOT OUT, I BEAT THAT JERK WHO LOCKED ME IN THERE TO A PULP.
WHY AM I NOT SUR-PRISED?
......
I'M NOT SURE I'M THE KIND OF MAN WHO COULD COMFORT A GIRL THIS SCARED.
"MAN"...NO, A HUMAN BEING. A HUMAN BEING WHO LACKS THE GUTS TO EVEN TRY!
Suu...
...


Clutch
ザク THMP
ザク THMP
ザク THMP


......
Squeeze
......
ザク THMP
ザク THMP
ザク THMP
HEY, TONO-KUN... WHAT ARE *YOU* AFRAID OF?
AFRAID OF?
LOTS OF THINGS.
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF THE MOST?
MOST?
MMM, LET'S SEE...


I'M SCARED OF THE THINGS ANY NORMAL PERSON WOULD BE AFRAID OF...
BROWN BEARS, SHARKS, EARTHQUAKES, ILLNESS...
BUT IF I HAD TO FIND SOMETHING THEY HAVE IN COMMON... DEATH?
AM I AFRAID OF MY OWN DEATH?
OR DEATH ITSELF?
NO...
PROBABLY...
THE DEATH OF SOMEONE...
CLOSE TO ME.
......
I DUNNO.
HMM.
OH, REALLY?


HEY, LOOK.
ザク
THMP...
WELL, HERE IT IS.
IT'S BRIGHT.
Glow
GET READY.
YEAH.
Gulp...
OUR TIME LIMIT IS TWO MINUTES.


ONCE WE PASS THE FIRST GATE, WE HAVE A MINUTE TO GO AS FAR AS WE CAN.
THE REMAINING MINUTE IS FOR OUR RETURN TRIP.
GOT IT.
I'VE SET MY STOP-WATCH.
READY WHEN YOU ARE.
Crack
Crick
I'M...
READY.
Haa...
ON YOUR MARK...
GET SET...
Scuff...


GO!
ザ CHARGE
ザ Dash
ザ Dash
ザ Dash
ザ Dash
ザ Dash
ザ Dash


Stopwatch
00:00:10
WE STILL HAVE TEN SEC-ONDS.
FWP
IF HANASHIRO CAN PICK UP THE PACE A LITTLE, WE SHOULD BE FINE.
THERE'S STILL PLENTY OF TIME.
THAT REMINDS ME.
HUFF!
HUFF!


WHAT DOES HANASHIRO WANT FROM THE URASHIMA TUNNEL?
I'M NOT DYING TO KNOW, BUT WHATEVER IT IS...
I DON'T WANT IT TO GET IN THE WAY OF OUR RESEARCH.
I'LL ASK HER WHEN WE GET OUT OF THE TUNNEL.
Rustle
Russtle
Huff!
I THINK IT'S BEEN A MINUTE NOW.
HUH?




Fwap
AUGH!
Flump
TONO-KUN?!
Smack
OW!
S-SORRY, HANASHIRO! I'M WASTING TIME--
Shock
Rustle...
HANA-SHIRO?
THIS...
THIS IS...
Huff!
Huff!


Flap...
A MANGA...?
Gasp
CRAP!
THE TIME!
Out of Service
Stopwatch


HANASHIRO! WE HAVE TO TURN BACK!
HANA-SHIRO?!
YOU GO AHEAD!
WHAT?!!
NO WAY! I CAN'T LEAVE YOU HERE!!


WELL, I CAN'T LEAVE *THESE* HERE!!!
MMPH MMPH!!


SOME-
THING'S
GOTTEN
INTO HER!
I'LL
HAVE TO
DRAG HER
BACK--
NO, I'D
BE GOING
TOO FAR!
THE BEST I
CAN DO FOR
NOW IS...
?!
DASH
Slam


HURRY, HANA-SHIRO!!
AH...!

THE
Tunnel
TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine

THE Tunnel TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine



Chapter 8
Her Purpose


Pant!
ザク THMP
ザク THMP
Pant!
Chapter 8
Her Purpose
ザク THMP


PANT!
Stagger
Stagger
THMP...
PANT!
I-I'M EX-HAUSTED...
REE-EE-EE
REE
REE
REE
IT'S BROAD DAYLIGHT.
THE TIME IS...
PANT!
PANT!
1 P.M. ON JULY 16TH.
'CAUSE WE ENTERED THE TUNNEL THE NIGHT OF THE 12TH...
July 16th 13:02
IT LOOKS LIKE WE WERE IN THERE FOR THREE AND A HALF DAYS.
EVEN THOUGH WE DIDN'T END UP FINDING OUT HOW LONG THE TUNNEL IS.


AT LEAST WE KNOW IT'S LONGER THAN THREE HUNDRED METERS.
WAIT...
THIS IS WHAT HANASHIRO FOUND--
Snatch
WHAAA?!
......


UUMM... HANASHIRO?
WHAT EXACTLY ARE THOSE?
THEY'RE ...
WHAT?
......
Grab
HEY!




Shock
AH...
Swp...
......
THEY'RE ...
THEY'RE NOTHING SPECIAL.
C'MON, BE HONEST.
IF THEY WERE NOTHING SPECIAL, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE SCRAMBLED TO PICK THEM ALL UP.
......


ARTIFACTS FROM THE URASHIMA TUNNEL.
MAYBE THOSE PAPERS WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THERE...
JUST LIKE KAREN'S SANDAL AND KII.
SO, ARE THOSE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR?
SKREEEEEEE
SKREEEEEEE
SKREEEEEEE
SKREEEEE
SKREEEEE
NO...
THEN WHAT ARE THEY?
TELL ME.
IT'D BE POINTLESS TO EXPLAIN.


DON'T LEAVE ME IN THE DARK.
FOR ALL I KNOW, IT COULD BE A CLUE TO SOLVING THE MYSTERY OF THE URASHIMA TUNNEL.
……
EVEN IF...
EVEN IF I TOLD YOU, IT WOULDN'T CHANGE ANYTHING.
……
I GET IT.
BUT CAN I AT LEAST ASK YOU THIS?


HANA-SHIRO, WHAT IS IT...
THAT YOU WANT FROM THE URASHIMA TUNNEL?
WHAT I...?
UM...
I'M NOT REALLY SURE.
YOU'RE NOT?
I THOUGHT THAT...
IF I WENT IN, I'D BE ABLE TO FIND IT.
HUH...?
Fwsh...


THAT'S AWFULLY VAGUE--
BUT I CAME HERE WITH A PURPOSE!!
WHAT ...?
ERM...
I WANT TO BE SPECIAL.
SPECIAL?


YOU CAN GET ANYTHING YOU WANT HERE...
INSIDE THIS SPACE WHERE TIME FLOWS DIFFERENTLY.
THIS PLACE DEFIES LOGIC.
"What ...
"is that?"
AH!
July 8th 19:41
WHAT COULD BE MORE SPECIAL THAN COMING HERE?
......


I DON'T THINK HAVING A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE MAKES YOU A SPECIAL PERSON.
YOU'RE WRONG.
HAVING A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE *CULTIVATES* BEING SPECIAL.
SPECIAL. YOU SAY "SPECIAL."
WHY DO YOU WANT SO BADLY TO BE SPECIAL?
......


WHEN I WAS THIRTEEN...
MY GRAND-FATHER DIED.
...?
WERE YOU TWO CLOSE?
NO, I RARELY TALKED TO HIM...
SO I HARDLY EVEN REMEMBER HIS FACE.
BUT LOSING HIM WAS SCARY.


SCARY...?
NOTHING CHANGED AFTER MY GRAND-FATHER DIED.
IT REALLY SURPRISED ME.
SOME PEOPLE CRIED AT HIS FUNERAL, BUT THEIR GRIEF DIDN'T LAST VERY LONG.
EVERYONE ACCEPTS DEATH AT SOME POINT...
AND EVEN IF YOU DON'T, DEATH IS INEVITABLE.
ALL TRACES OF HUMAN LIFE FADE WITH TIME...
AND ONE DAY, BARRING A FEW EXCEP-TIONS, WE'LL COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR.
I REALIZED THAT AFTER MY GRAND-FATHER DIED.


しゃわ しゃわ しゃわ
SKREE REE REE
HEY, DON'T YOU THINK...
IT'S ALL HOPELESS?
EVERYONE DIES SOMEDAY.
BUT WHEN I'M GONE, THERE'LL BE NOTHING LEFT OF ME.
THE WORLD WON'T CHANGE.
SO, WHAT WAS I BORN FOR?
WHAT AM I TO THE WORLD?
WHAT'S THE POINT OF LIVING IF YOU'RE INSIGNIFICANT?


WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT...
BEING NORMAL SEEMS AWFUL.
THAT'S WHY...
Squeeze...
I WANT TO BE AN EXCEPTION.
SOMEONE OUT OF THE ORDINARY, SOMEONE WHO LEAVES A MARK ON THE WORLD.
SOME-ONE...
SPECIAL.


Fwssh...
HER STORY WAS... OVER-WHELMING.
SPEECH-LESS.
I'M...
......
I NEED TO GIVE HER A REAL RESPONSE, SOMETHING WITH SUBSTANCE.
I CAN'T JUST SUPER-FICIALLY AGREE AND MOVE ON.


HANASHIRO MUST HAVE STRUGGLED WITH THESE ISSUES FOR WEEKS...
OR MONTHS, MAYBE EVEN YEARS.
I HAD ONLY LISTENED TO HANASHIRO FOR A FEW MINUTES...
BUT THOSE CONVICTIONS DIDN'T JUST SPRING UP OVERNIGHT. I SHOULD MIND MY OWN BUSINESS.
I SHOULD...
BUT STILL...
UMM ...



IN ALL HONESTY, I JUST CAN'T...
GET ON BOARD WITH THIS.
YOU'RE BIG ON...
MONOLOGUES, AREN'T YOU?
IT DOESN'T MEAN THAT SAYING THAT CRAP IS OKAY!
Clutch
IDIOT...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT!
I CAN UNDERSTAND YOU...
BUT I CAN'T **RELATE** TO YOU, HANASHIRO.
......


I'M FINE WITH NORMAL.
WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO WISH FOR?
EVEN IF THE WORLD FINDS YOU INSIGNIFICANT...
IF YOU CAN LIVE A HAPPY, CAREFREE LIFE...
IF LIFE GOES ON IN PEACE...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BEING RUN-OF-THE-MILL?
みーんみんみんみん
REE-EE-EE REE REE REE
TONO-KUN...


THAT WASN'T VERY NICE.
IT TOOK A LOT OF COURAGE FOR ME TO CONFESS ALL THAT.
S- SORRY!
I HAD NO CLUE WHAT TO SAY...
SO, I JUST...
IT'S FINE. I SAID WHAT I WANTED TO SAY.
BUT DID YOU *UNDERSTAND* WHAT I SAID?
THAT'S WHY I GO INTO THE URASHIMA TUNNEL.
I COULD TELL YOU REALLY MEANT IT, HANASHIRO.
REALLY?


Phew...
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.
......
WE ENDED UP STARTING SCHOOL AT 6TH PERIOD THAT DAY.
HAMAMOTO-SENSEI WAS NOT PLEASED.



Yaawwn...
I'M SLEEPY.
I DIDN'T REALIZE IT BECAUSE I WAS IN THE TUNNEL, BUT I'VE TECHNICALLY BEEN IN CLASS ALL NIGHT.
I HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE FRIDAY NIGHT.
THE TUNNEL...
SINCE WE STARTED INVESTIGATING THE URASHIMA TUNNEL, TWO THINGS HAVE BECOME CLEAR.
ONE: THE FLOW OF TIME INSIDE DIFFERS FROM THAT OUTSIDE.
TWO: YOU CAN GET THINGS THAT YOU WANT.



......
WE CAN PROVE THAT FIRST POINT...
BUT THEN THERE'S THE SECOND POINT.
KAREN
KAREN'S SANDAL, OUR PARAKEET, KII...
THEY'RE NOT WHAT I WANT.
"Kii?"
SO, IF I TRUST WHAT HANASHIRO SAID, THOSE PILES OF PAPER THAT SUDDENLY APPEARED...
PROBABLY AREN'T WHAT SHE WANTS, EITHER.
I WONDER WHAT THE CRITERIA ARE FOR AN OBJECT TO APPEAR.
MAYBE THEY'RE RANDOM THINGS THAT JUST POP INTO YOUR HEAD.
THERE MUST BE SOME LOGIC TO IT.
OUR DESIRES APPEAR IN DISTORTED FORMS.
THE LOGIC...


COME TO THINK OF IT, WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I TRANSLATED THIS FOREIGN HORROR STORY FOR AN ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT.
WHAT WAS IT AGAIN?
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, IT WAS "THE MONKEY'S PAW."
YES, THAT WAS IT. "THE MONKEY'S PAW."
THE PAW IS LIKE A MALICIOUS MAGIC LAMP. IT CAN GRANT ITS OWNER THREE WISHES, BUT NEVER IN THE WAY THEY ACTUALLY WANT.
FOR INSTANCE, IN THE STORY, A WOMAN WISHES FOR A LOT OF MONEY.
SHE GETS THE MONEY, BUT AT THE PRICE OF HER SON DYING IN AN ACCIDENT.
HER NEXT WISH IS FOR HER SON TO COME BACK TO LIFE.


AND THEN THAT SON...
COMES HOME AS SOMETHING...
UNRECOGNIZABLE.
ASIDE FROM THE EXPLICITLY EVIL INTENT...
"THE MONKEY'S PAW" AND THE URASHIMA TUNNEL MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON.
WAIT...
HOW CAN I BE SO SURE THAT THERE'S NO EVIL INTENT?
FOR EXAMPLE...
I FIRST ENTERED THE TUNNEL ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 1ST.


I FOUND KAREN'S SANDAL...
JUST AS I WAS ABOUT TO TURN BACK.
"But how far should I go?
"There's nothing espe-cially--"
BAM
SLAM
Waaaaah?!!
HOW IS THAT NORMAL? IT SEEMS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.
WHEN I STARTED TO FEEL UNEASY, KII TURNED UP, TOO.
IT'S AS IF IT'S TRYING TO LURE ITS PREY...
DEEPER AND DEEPER INSIDE.
Shudder...


SUPPOSE THE URASHIMA TUNNEL...
DOESN'T HAVE OUR BEST INTERESTS IN MIND?
IF IT'S LIKE "THE MONKEY'S PAW"...
AND THE KAREN WHO SHOWS UP IS NOTHING LIKE THE KAREN I KNEW--
Onii-Chan!
FROM THAT DAY...
Throb
Throb
ぶいん
Shake
ぶいん
Shake


July 18th (Thursday)
Today's Class Helpers: Tanaka Okawa
UNTIL SUMMER VACATION...
THE TIME FLEW BY.
End of First Semester Ceremony
For Summer Vacation
WOO HOO!
YESSS!
YAY!
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE, DON'T WORK TOO HARD DURING THE BREAK!
NOW OFF YOU GO, KIDS!
Hooray!
おっ


Chatter
Chatter
Chatter
Lost in thought...
WHEN'S THE BARBECUE?
SO MUCH HOMEWORK!
HOW DID YOU DO?
I'VE GOT A CLUB MEETING!
SO, THE FIREWORKS SHOW IS IN AUGUST?
YEAH. YOU'RE GOING, RIGHT?
THIS MIGHT BE THE LAST TIME...
I SEE THIS CLASSROOM.
KAORU.


KAGA.
GOT ANY PLANS?
NO, NOT REALLY.
I'M GOING OUT TO EAT WITH SOME GUYS FROM THE CALLIGRAPHY CLUB. WANNA COME?
AHHH.
Sigh...
THIS MIGHT BE MY LAST CHANCE TO TALK TO KAGA.
I SHOULD GO.
......
NO, I CAN'T.
THAT'S OKAY.
I'D JUST RUIN THE MOOD.
WEIRD, YOU ACTUALLY TOOK YOUR TIME TO ANSWER ME.
YOU SEEMED A LITTLE **CONFLICTED** THERE.
Flinch


DON'T BE SHY. THEY'RE NOT THE KIND OF PEOPLE WHO'D GIVE YOU A HARD TIME.
REALLY, IT'S OKAY. I'M BROKE.
WHAT IF I COVERED YOU AND YOU JUST--
NO NEED FOR THAT. DON'T MIND ME.
JUST GO AND HAVE FUN.
WAIT A SEC.
Grab
HE'S BEING AWFULLY INSISTENT TODAY.
YOU CHOOSE NOT TO HAVE FUN WHEN THE DOOR IS WIDE OPEN. I THINK THAT'S JUST LAZY.
...?
......
YOU REALLY DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
I'M THE SAME AS I'VE EVER BEEN.
HMM.
SO, THEN...


WHAT'S WITH ALL YOUR ABSENCES AND TARDINESS THESE DAYS?
Rmp! Rmp!
Rmp!...
......
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT...
BUT LET ME JUST SAY THIS.
IF YOU'RE TOO AFRAID TO LOSE OR TOO TIMID TO WIN...
Poke
SOMEDAY YOU'RE GONNA END UP DEAD INSIDE.


Reach...
NO WAY.
NOT GONNA HAPPEN.
BE-SIDES...
TCH!
LET'S TALK ANOTHER DAY.
......
I'LL MAKE UP FOR WHAT I'VE LOST.
JUST COME TO SCHOOL, WILL YA?
AT THAT TIME...



The Tunnel to Summer, the Exit of Goodbyes: Ultramarine—Volume 2 END

THE Tunnel TO Summer The Exit of Goodbyes: Ultramarine

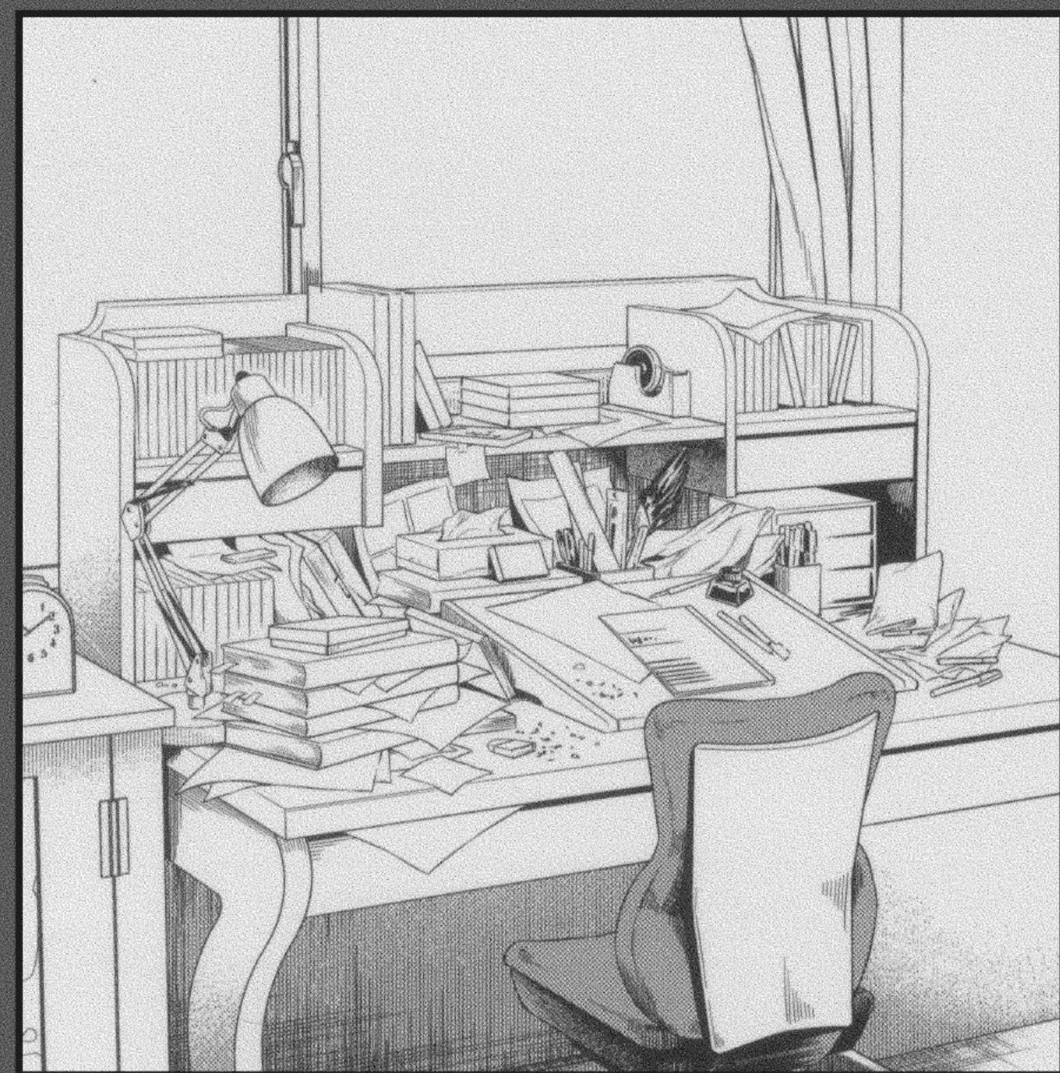
SPECIAL COMMENT

Manga Artist: Koudon
Thank you so much for purchasing the second volume of *The Tunnel to Summer, the Exit of Goodbyes: Ultramarine!*
My name is Koudon and I'm in charge of the art.
Two volumes in the blink of an eye...that was fast! I might be outside of the tunnel, but time sure is flying by. I often hear that everyone involved in the series, including Hachimoku-sensei, who wrote the original novel, loves Kawasaki-san, and I think these chapters show why! I hope you'll watch over these characters warmly as they do their best to change their lives and themselves!

Original Creator: Mei Hachimoku
Volume 2! It's out! Even though this volume's release date is in the spring, the weather's still chilly as I write this postscript.
Now that I think about it, it was the middle of winter when I wrote the original novel, too.
I miss those days when I used to pound away on my keyboard as I shivered in the cold, but I guess winter makes you pine for things, like wanting something you don't have.
I hope *Tunnel to Summer* can fill that void for you, my dear readers.

In the next volume...





Surrounded by plenty of books and a messy desk...



the two of them find themselves alone...

in Hanashiro's room.



Kaoru and Hanashiro search for the secrets of the tunnel...



but useful information is hard to come by.



The investigation hits a rough patch, and Kaoru receives an invitation from Hanashiro.



The Tunnel to Summer
THE EXIT OF GOODBYES: ULTRAMARINE

Volume 3 coming soon!

Koudon

Debuted under the name of Koudo in 2014 with *Werewolf Game*.
Notable works:
Werewolf Game (original creator: Ryo Kawakami)
Complete in three volumes
Werewolf Game: Beast Side (original creator: Ryo Kawakami)
Complete in three volumes
Werewolf Game: Crazy Fox (original creator: Ryo Kawakami)
Complete in four volumes
(All published by Takeshobo)

Mei Hachimoku

Debuted with the light novel *The Tunnel to Summer, the Exit of Goodbyes*, which won the GaGaGa Award and Jury's Special Award at the 13th Annual Shogakukan Light Novel Awards. They are also the author of the light novel *Wait For Me Yesterday in Spring,* published by GaGaGa Bunko.

KUKKA

Illustrator of series such as *The Tunnel to Summer, the Exit of Goodbyes* (GaGaGa Bunko), and *Until I Kill My Favorite Novelist* (Kadokawa). Active in a wide range of fields, their work includes the main visual of the Tokyo Game Show 2020 Online, and CD jackets and music illustrations for *Eve* and *After the Rain*.

THE Tunnel TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine

THE
Tunnel
TO Summer
The Exit of Goodbyes:
Ultramarine



SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

THE Tunnel TO Summer The Exit of Goodbyes Ultramarine

VOLUME 2

story by MEI HACHIMOKU art by KOUDON character design by KUKKA

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ADAPTATION
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NATSU ENO TUNNEL, SAYONARA NO DEGUCHI GUNJO Vol. 2
by Mei HACHIMOKU, KOUDON, KUKKA

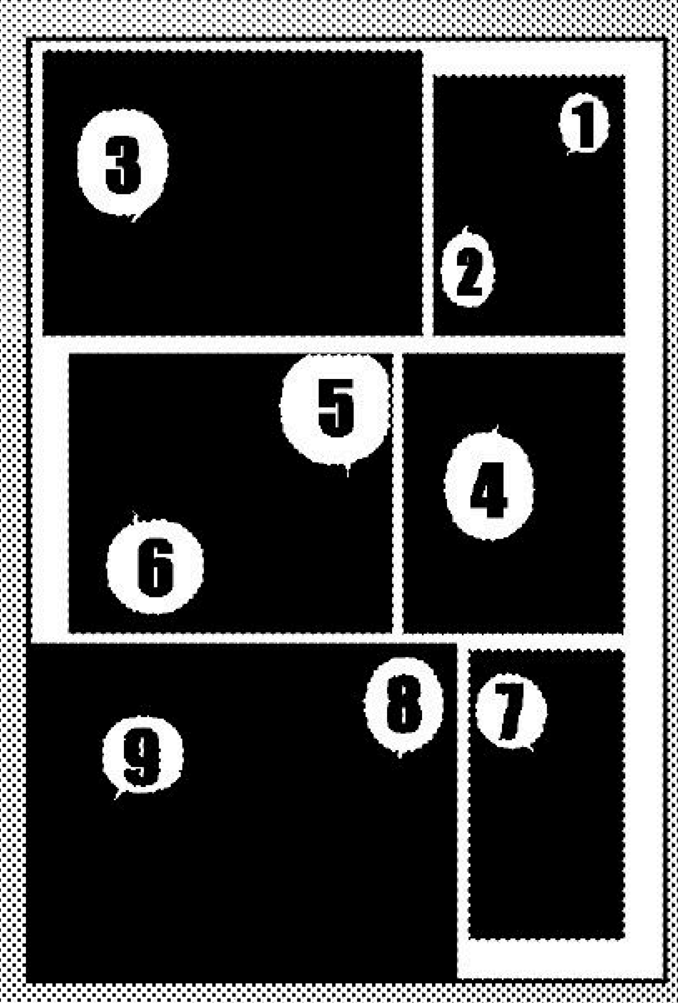
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



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Connected by a Strand

Kaoru and Anzu have joined forces to study the mysterious Urashima Tunnel, which is rumored to give you your heart's desire—in exchange for years of your life. As they explore, connected by a length of string, the two students discover other connections in their everyday lives, including seeing a new side of Kawasaki, the school's arrogant queen bee.

TEEN (13+)

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